NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, DECEMBER 16, 1853.

That Europe is at present one vast combustible mass, ready to explode at any fitting moment, is too trite an assertion to need repetition, did not every day supply additional corroboration of its truth. That the whole of Italy, great part of the Austrian dominions, many of the German smaller nations, Hungary, Poland, much of Prussia, and even of Russia, are in this condition is confirmed on all hands. The two disinherited branches of the Bourbons keep France upon the *qui vive;* and Red Republicanism, Communism, and all the varieties of mad Democracy are far from being rooted out of the Empire. Even placid Belgium is watchful of the effects which the marriage of the heir apparent to the throne with an Austrian Archduchess may have upon the politics of the reigning monarch. The wise Dutchman seems the only one on the continent who smokes his pipe, and drinks his schnaps, and counts his profits in quiet and peace, rejoicing under a prudent and fraternal form of government, without desire of change. But is Great Britain free from this desire of "something unpossessed?" Far from it. There is a contest going on there between Conservatism, or rather Preservatism, on the one hand, and Radicalism, Chartism, and other innumerable *isms* on the other, which does not bode well for her future peace. The contest is now between workmen and employers, between labor and capital. The dispute has assumed the worst of all possible shapes, that in which the rich are arrayed on one side and the poor upon the other. The *strikes* in the manufacturing districts, which have been succeeded by similar proceedings on the part of operatives of nearly every kind, have been and are the result of this antagonistic feeling. At the meetings of the operatives words have been uttered and sentiments enunciated which a quarter of a century ago would have been called not merely incendiary, but treasonable, and would have subjected the speakers and those who applauded their speeches to severe punishment. But the Government of the present day is wiser, and we hope the people too, than to notice these proceedings as any thing more than mere ebullitions of feeling, discharged in certainly rather an imprudent and improper manner, but vanishing into thin air as soon as they escaped the lips of the speakers. Tens of thousands of workmen in Lancashire and West Yorkshire continue out of employment; the mills being closed against them unless they accede to the terms proposed by their proprietors. This the men steadily but temperately refuse to do. But winter has set in; the Lancashire and Yorkshire hills will soon be covered with snow. The funds upon which the unemployed men have been supported will grow smaller and smaller; hunger and cold will pinch and subdue the most hardy frames; wives and children will wail and lament and shiver in the streets. Incendiary orators will speak words of vengeance against the employers to the open ears and the empty stomachs of the suffering non-employed. Machinery will be denounced, the wealthy will be called hard-hearted and tyrannical oppressors, and the poor their suffering and ill-used victims; and the result may easily be anticipated. We do not think that there exists in England any desire for political change beyond some modifications in the representation, and some minor matters more of an administrative than a fundamental nature. The evils complained of are of a social nature, more difficult to be remedied, because they grow out of the very fabric of English commercial life, have arisen from the nature of English pursuits, and have grown with the growth and strengthened with the strength of English prosperity. To remedy a part of these evils, thus interwoven with the very essence of English life, some of the orators of the million have proposed the assembling of what they call a *Labor Parliament*, to be composed of delegates from the various bodies of operatives, who should decide upon a mode of arranging existing difficulties, and provide against their recurrence. We do not see any objection to this mode of settling the business, and wish it may be practicable; for we are quite sure that, unless it be speedily settled, great mischief will arise from it. We remember how the corn-law question was brought to a right solution by the operation of the Anti-corn-law League, and we see no reason why the labor question should not be settled by a *Labor League.* We perused the address to the working men of Great Britain which has been issued by the inauguration meeting at Manchester; and, although we wish some of the expressions had been more temperate, we see nothing very objectionable in the principle of the proceeding; all depends upon the temper in which the delegates meet, and the line of conduct which they adopt. The masters will be reasoned with; they will not be coerced; and the men have no doubt the same determination. We do not believe that the operatives are a discontented class, but they are now in a position to be made the tools and the victims of incendiary demagogues, who have ends of their own to advance which are entirely irrespective of the interests of the workmen; and we are afraid of the possible result. The employers have, we think, been pursuing a course which may make an industrious people dangerous; and they, far more than the men, are answerable for the agitation which is raising its front in the manufacturing districts. If this continue, the mistake—the mutual though not equal mistake—will be painfully apparent, and, when too late, regretted. We are probably not near enough to see the end, but we are sure that end will be regretted, and its effects will not soon be blotted out. Whether a conquered peace will be more than a sullen truce will depend upon the conduct of the victorious party.

The present contest between Russia and Turkey is, we think, the determining crisis of the condition of Europe for the next half century at least. We would not have England and France rush hotly and impatiently into war with Russia, but we think they have tried diplomacy for peace long enough. NICHOLAS is too wily for them; he will not commit himself to any thing without a *salvo* which permits him to escape, should he wish it, from even the conditions of his own propositions. Under this view of the character of the CZAR, we, dearly as we love peace, deprecate the attempt which is now being made to negotiate. At all events, a preliminary should be that the Russian troops should evacuate the Principalities. The SULTAN has patriotically and justly taken this ground, and England and France should manfully and decidedly support him in maintaining it. Any peace proposed to him not based upon this preliminary would be dishonorable for France and England to propose, and dishonorable for him to accept. The allies have promised support to the Sultan; those promises have led him to make most incredible exertions to maintain his dignity and the honor and independence of his Empire. If France and England desert him now because he will not patch up a hollow truce upon dishonorable terms, they will purchase a peace on their part at a price which will not render peace worth having. While England and France, backed by the two neutral and really neutralizing Powers, Austria and Prussia, are talking about peace, Russia has been and is assembling her enormous forces, working out coolly and tranquilly her vast and far-seeing combinations, and her Emperor is marching silently, surely, and unwaveringly upon his prey. Not one step towards peace has he made since April. Not one jot of his proud demands has he abated since the Menschikoff mission, and that mission was made with no other intention than to provoke Turkey into a war, by the unwarrantable demands which MENSCHIKOFF was instructed to make, and by the manner in which he urged those pretensions.

The last returns of the Bank of England show—

Circulation	£21,205,800	Decrease	£138,400
Public deposites	7,659,924	Increase	136,706
Private do	11,480,162	Do	467,730
Coin and bullion	15,092,567	Do	2,481
Disc'ts and dep's	16,586,818	Do	252,956

This is a much more favorable statement than was anticipated. The imports of gold from the United States have sufficed to prevent any further diminution in the bank stock of coin and bullion. Since the date of this return the steamer Victoria has arrived from Australia with a large batch of Australian news and a very large quantity of Australian gold, having 184,000 ounces of the latter on freight, and the passengers were supposed to possess 20,000 ounces more, making the value of her precious metal about £800,000. The news from Australia is generally favorable. The number of inhabitants in Melbourne district is now about 250,000. The social state of Melbourne is represented as being truly frightful, and the new arrivals of emigrants experiencing great mortality. The trade of Melbourne still continues very depressed. Some vessels have ascended the Murray twelve hundred miles from the sea; the navigation is reported safe, the depth of water varying from eighteen to thirty-six feet. The gold license fee is about to be abolished or reduced to a nominal sum for the purpose of registration.

The excise duties for the nine months of 1853 are stated as follows. Charged with duty:

	1852.	1853.
Malt, bushels	26,372,266	27,331,641
Hops, pounds	43,605	14,793
Paper, pounds	116,468,493	135,824,345
Spirits, gallons	17,849,589	19,150,289
Sugar, cwt	116	1,538

The quantity of malt, paper, and spirits retained for home consumption has varied in proportion; the hops and the sugar—the latter home-made in Ireland from beet-root—all retained. The quantity of beer exported in the first nine months of 1852 was 180,290 barrels; in those of 1853 it had advanced to 306,536 barrels. There is an increased demand for wheat and a consequent advance in price, owing to inquiries for continental markets. Several cargoes were bought in Mark lane on Wednesday at an advance of 1s. per quarter over Monday. Nearly all the cargoes which have lately arrived off the coast have gone to France and Belgium.

The monthly returns of the Bank of France, as made up to last Thursday, show a further decrease of £558,000 in the stock of coin and bullion. In the previous month the decrease was £2,000,000, and in the month before £2,887,000—making nearly £5,500,000 in the three months. This drain has been principally caused by the deficient harvest. The return, upon the whole, shows a considerable falling off in trade.

The examination before the commissioners inquiring into the management of the affairs of the corporation of London continues to make strange developments. The sum paid to the officers of the corporation in 1835 was £110,980. It is now said to be £125,000. Twelve officers of the corporation receive £48,435 in annual salaries. Twelve cabinet ministers receive only £45,480, and the President of the United States would not receive so much in nine years. The legal expenses of the city are £40,000 a year. The bills of three lawyers, the city solicitor, the comptroller, and the remembrancer, amounted in ten years to £162,000.

We have heard much of the great weight to which sheep are sometimes fed in England, and our belief was really staggered by some of the reports; but we really saw on Monday last, in one country butcher's shop, four sheep, which had been raised and fed in Gloucestershire, whose weight when slaughtered and dressed for sale as mutton was 250, 245, 216, and 197 pounds respectively. A shoulder, cut fairly from the largest, weighed 42½ pounds. Two Lincolnshire sheep in the same shop weighed 216 and 201 pounds respectively.

So much for food for the body. There is a singular dearth of food for the mind in the shape of new books, and the theatres are equally barren of novelty. As connected with Literature, we may mention the death of Mrs. OPIE, after a long life of respectability and usefulness. Captain WARNER, celebrated for many warlike inventions, is also dead.

There is a rumor from Paris of a plot against the life of the Emperor of France; but rumors of that kind have lately been so plentiful that they scarcely excite attention.

The Turks have experienced a serious disaster in the destruction of several of their ships of war at Sinope by a Russian squadron of very superior force. We are yet without the Turkish account of the battle, in which the Turks are admitted, even by the Russians, to have shown great skill and bravery. The first Russian account boasted of the capture of seven frigates, two corvettes, one steamer, and three transports. This is already reduced to about half that number, and the Russians are admitted to have been so very severely handled that it begins to be doubtful whether it can really be called a victory. On the other hand, it is certain that the Russians have experienced important defeats in the East. There seems to have been much hard fighting in that quarter, in which the Russians were uniformly worsted.

A Spanish ambassador has arrived at Constantinople, and it is said that a Spanish squadron of six men-of-war is on the way to that city. If they are going there to be mere lookers-on, like the English and French fleets, they had better be out of the way. The following is all the news we have from Vienna:

"DECEMBER 8.—The new plan of mediation in the Eastern question corresponds with Lord Redcliff's note of October, the consideration of which was adjourned by the commencement of hostilities. Arif Effendi has told B... Buol that the Porte consented to the neutrality of ...ia. Austria, and it is said Russia likewise, have instructed the Vladika of Montenegro to observe the strictest neutrality."

There is not any news from the other parts of the continent. The Spanish ministers are in a considerable minority in the Cortes; the Assembly has been adjourned, and the Cabinet will, it is said, resign.

VARIETY.

EXECUTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1853.—In January 2, February 1, March 1, April 6, May 5, June 6, July 8, August 5, September 10, October 10, November 5, December 2—total 61. There are eight or ten persons already sentenced to be executed during the coming year.

BENJAMIN HANDY, a student at the University of Missouri, was shot dead a few days ago by a fellow-student, W. W. Thornton. Handy first attacked Thornton the day on which he was killed, but previous to that Thornton had thrashed the deceased. The affray had its origin in a game of whist.

THE STORM.—The recent snow storm extended over a very wide extent of country. From Portland, Maine, to Richmond, Virginia, at Albany, Cleveland, Chicago, and Detroit, we already know it prevailed, and the mails will probably inform us of its still wider extension. At Boston the storm was very severe. Both business and travel were almost entirely suspended. In many places the streets were filled with snow from four to six feet deep.

On Friday night a fracas occurred in the porter house of Wm. Brennan, in Williamsburg, N. Y., which resulted in the proprietor shooting and killing Michael Horan. Brennan gave himself up.

Capt. McKAY, the builder and owner of the Great Republic, has issued orders for immediate preparations to be made for the laying of a keel of another vessel, to be built precisely similar in every respect to the plan of the one destroyed.

CALENDAR FOR 1854.

Months.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Months.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	July	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	29	30	31	...	...	...	...		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Febr'ary	...	...	...	1	2	3	4		30	31	...	...	...	...	...
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	August	...	...	1	2	3	4	5
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	26	27	28	...	...	...	...		20	21	22	23	24	25	26
March	...	...	...	1	2	3	4		27	28	29	30	31	...	...
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Sept'ber	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	26	27	28	29	30	31	...		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
April	...	...	...	...	...	...	1		24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	October	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	30	...	...	...	...	...	...		29	30	31	...	...	...	...
May	...	1	2	3	4	5	6		...	...	...	1	2	3	4
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Novem'r	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	28	29	30	31	...	...	...		26	27	28	29	30	...	...
June	...	...	...	...	1	2	3		...	...	...	...	...	1	2
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Decem'r	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	25	26	27	28	29	30	...		24	25	26	27	28	29	30
									31						

FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, DECEMBER 15, 1853.

The illustrious young astronomer, LEVERRIER, Senator of the Empire, whose nomination to the direction of the Observatory of Paris as successor of Arago I am in daily expectation of learning, has just read at the Academy of Sciences an interesting memoir concerning the group of small planets revolving between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. Mr. HIND, of England, has just discovered another making the number of these planets known up to the present time twenty-seven, I believe. "It is not to be doubted," says Leverrier, "that it is more complicated than has been hitherto generally supposed." He thinks that improved instruments, charts, and modes of search will ere long show them to exist in "prodigious numbers." Leverrier rejects as inadmissible the theory emitted by Olbers early in this century respecting the origin of these telescopic planets. This German astronomer, who illustrated himself in 1802 by the discovery of Pallas, the second of the series in date of discovery, and of Vesta in 1807, the fourth, was of opinion that these *asteroids*, as they were called, were merely the fragments of a planet of primary order which in some grand natural catastrophe had been broken and scattered. Leverrier now thinks that they were originally created in the condition we now see them, and in accordance with the laws which are known to govern the planetary system; and he expresses the hope that continued investigation will discover the law of their distribution, and determine the configuration of their principal groups. "It is hardly to be credited," he says, "that these small stars are scattered at random over the whole heavens. We are led to a different conclusion not only by the fact that hitherto they have been discovered only within one zone, but by the logical probability which exists that the same cause which united so great a quantity of matter in each one of the principal planets will at least be found to have distributed the rest in distinct groups." These planets revolve about the sun within a zone, which, taking for unity the average distance of the earth from the sun, commences at about 2.20 from the sun and extends to the distance of 3.16.

The object of the late memoir of Leverrier was to present to the Academy some "considerations" touching the quantity of matter, of which the twenty-seven telescopic planets are parts, that may be supposed to exist within the limits of the zone above mentioned. His conclusions are arrived at by calculations of the same kind as those which served Leverrier so well, giving him an immortal name in the history of astronomy, as discoverer of the great planet Neptune in 1846. He calculates the amount of matter by the amount of perturbation which it is observed to cause in the revolutions of the nearest planets, Mars and Jupiter. M. Leverrier is of opinion that the total sum of matter constituting the small planets lying between the mean distances 2.20 and 3.16 cannot exceed one-fourth of the mass of our earth.

The above allusion to LEVERRIER naturally reminds me of the greater astronomer France has recently lost in her illustrious ARAGO. Leverrier may perhaps, if he pursues in future his scientific career with the ardor that characterized his early progress, leave behind him a reputation as *savant* seriously rivalling that of his distinguished master; but he has already done that which will ever prevent its being said of him, as may with rigorous truth be said of Arago, that as *savant* he left behind him no equal in the world; as an upright and consistent public character and politician no equal in France, and few, if any, as an honest man. For the last five years Leverrier has never missed an opportunity, in public and in private, in the Academy of Sciences, in the Legislative Assembly, whenever and wherever they came in contact, to oppose and treat with disrespect, to misrepresent, detract from, and slander the blind and hoary veteran of science whom the whole world admired and respected, and whom all who knew him intimately loved. He felt his own nascent reputation as a *savant* to be small beside that which had rewarded the arduous, varied, and life-long labors of Arago; and he had the presumption to feel mortified by the comparison. Arago adopted in very early life liberal but moderate political principles, and he adhered to them consistently, unswervingly throughout all the political changes in France up to the day of his death. He kept aloof from the first empire, from the restoration, from the constitutional monarchy of Louis Philippe, foregoing the office and wealth with which those Governments would have purchased his adherence. Under the Republic of 1848 he was ever found opposing the ultra Democrats whose predominance in France renders the Republic impossible here; and the new Empire of 1852 at its advent found him ready to resign an office which he held, and resign its salary, which was necessary for his support, rather than do violence to his republican convictions by taking the oath of allegiance to Napoleon III. Leverrier, on the contrary, a political heliotrope, has been seen turning with promptness to every sun which has risen above the political horizon in France since 1846, when his own name was heard for the first time beyond the walls of the recitation-room of the Polytechnic School.

I was at Arago's funeral two months ago. I followed his body on foot from the Observatory to Pere Lachaise, some two or three miles, under a drenching rain, through slippery and muddy streets. There is not another public man in France to whom I would give such a mark of my respect. In the Observatory where the body lay, and without thronging the gates by thousands, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, I saw an immense crowd of the friends and admirers of Arago, come to render to him, as a man, as a politician, and as savant, the last office of respect. There were men of the people by thousands, hard-handed, rough-featured, blouse-clad working men, and three hundred of the upper classes, his colleagues in political life, his friends in social life, his admirers and former pupils. His colleagues of the Institute, too, counted almost by hundreds; Ministers of State were there, and the Emperor himself felt constrained, notwithstanding the political antipathy that existed between himself and the deceased, to distinguish the illustrious French *savant* by sending a general, one of his aid-de-camps, to represent his Majesty at the funeral ceremonies. *But I looked in vain for Leverrier upon that occasion!* I was really desirous and anxious to catch a glimpse of his face in the funeral hall, for I remember with what pleasure and enthusiasm I hailed the triumph of the young astronomer in 1846, and I remembered, too, with what promptitude, magnanimity, and zeal Arago himself, in the Academy of Sciences, asserted the contested claims of Leverrier to the honors of the discovery of the new planet, and advocated the proposal (if indeed he did not originate it) to give to the planet the name of its discoverer, *Leverrier.* His generous exertions, however, were unavailing. The new planet received definitely the heathenish name of *Neptune.*

Your readers will learn with pleasure that the "*Works of Arago*" are about to be published in Paris, in twelve volumes 8vo. An auto-biography detailing the early life of the illustrious *savant* will open the first volume; the remainder of which, with volumes ii and iii, will be devoted to a collection of biographical notices and eulogies written by other persons. Volumes iv, v, vi, ix, x will contain scientific notices and memoirs from the pen of Arago, about twenty in number, of which six only have hitherto been published. Volumes vii and viii will contain a *popular treatise of astronomy*, no part of which has ever seen the light. This treatise will probably be the most useful and valuable of his works. It will doubtless comprise, revised and improved, the popular course of lectures which he delivered at the Observatory before the advent of the Republic. I can speak of them *de auditu*, having attended during the winter of 1846–'47 the last course of lectures that he was able to deliver. Arago was perhaps the only man living who could make really popular and intensely interesting to a mass of ordinary unscientific listeners a four months' course of abstruse astronomy. He did, however. Throughout a rigorous winter, and notwithstanding the distant and inconvenient location of the Observatory, his lecture-room was always crowded to excess, and many who only came half an hour before the appointed hour for commencing were daily obliged to go away for want of room. Volume xi of the forthcoming works will contain academic reports, instructions for scientific voyages, &c. from his pen; and the volume xii and last will be devoted to the illustration by his printed reports and other documents of the political and civic life of Arago.

OPERATIONS OF THE MINT, 1853.

We learn from the Mint that the deposites of gold during the month of December were $4,445,000, against $3,336,981 in December of last year. This enables us to complete our tables for the year, as follows:

Gold Deposites at the Philadelphia Mint.

	1852.	1853.
January	$4,161,688	$4,962,962
February	3,010,222	3,548,523
March	3,892,156	7,533,752
April	3,091,037	4,766,000
May	4,345,578	4,425,000
June	6,689,474	4,545,179
July	4,193,880	3,505,331
August	2,671,566	4,512,000
September	4,253,687	3,027,805
October	4,140,069	4,452,000
November	7,279,941	3,650,000
December	3,336,981	4,445,000
Total	$51,066,276	$53,373,552

The Coinage for the month of December was as follows:

	Pieces.	Amount.
Gold	471,674	$4,291,133 52
Silver	9,401,810	914,260 00
Copper	1,568,403	15,498 46

The total coinage for the year 1853, at the Mint, is as follows:

Gold	7,253,576	$51,888,882 50
Silver	55,751,068	7,852,571 00
Copper	6,770,825	67,059 78
	69,775,469	$59,808,513 28

We learn also the following particulars of the gold deposites at the Branch Mints during the year 1853, up to December 1st:

Deposites at Branch Mints.

Dahlonega	$405,246 29
Charlotte	112,095 84
New Orleans	1,767,546 13
	$2,284,888 26

The whole deposites of gold at all the mints during the year, with the exception of the branch mints in December, which will not be very large, are therefore as follows:

Gold deposites at Philadelphia Mint	$53,373,603
Gold deposites at Branch Mints	2,284,888
	$55,658,491

The exports of coin during the year have not been more than from twenty-eight to thirty millions; so that we are richer by at least twenty-five millions than we were a year ago.

The total deposites of American gold at the Mint and Branches, since the discoveries in California in 1848, may be briefly stated at two hundred and twelve millions six hundred thousand dollars.—*New York Courier.*

OPENING OF THE ASTOR LIBRARY.—The Journal of Commerce states that this institution is now nearly ready for the public to participate in its benefits. Dr. COGSWELL, the able and indefatigable librarian, who has for the last three or four years been incessantly employed in purchasing, collecting, and arranging volumes, has so nearly completed his work as to be enabled to announce, in behalf of the trustees of the institution, that the library will be open for the admission of visiters on the 9th of January instant, from 9 A. M. until 4 P. M., and for this purpose only, at the same hours every day except Sunday during the residue of the month. At the expiration of this time, when the influx of visiters will have subsided, it will be opened for its appropriate use, under regulations which will hereafter be made known.

Every person will be freely admitted to the library without any ticket or other ceremony, on the simple condition of correct demeanor.

The Astor Library building is situated on Lafayette Place, and is a substantial brick structure, handsomely trimmed with brown stone, and well adapted to the purposes for which it is designed. Its cost, with the ground, is $100,000.

THE MICHIGAN RAILROAD CONVENTION.—The following is a summary of the resolutions passed by the Michigan State Railroad Convention, which met at Jackson on the 29th ultimo:

First, that the primary object of the State Government is the welfare of the State; second, that all sections are entitled to equal rights, and reprobating any legislation which favors one section at the expense of another. The third sets forth the great value of railroad communications; that individual enterprise is incompetent to carry out such communications, and corporate rights are the only means by which the necessary capital can be raised; that while the Legislature has furnished certain portions of the State with the necessary means for the development of their resources, it has in effect denied them to the greater part. The fourth resolution is directed against monopolies. The fifth declares that the intent of the framers of the Constitution was directed against the evils arising from corporate monopolies, and contends that the interest of the whole people demands the speedy carrying out by the Legislature of the constitutional provisions in this respect. The sixth speaks of the evil effects experienced by the Northern portion of the State from want of railroad facilities, and declares the injustice of compelling the people of the North to longer submit to such evils. The seventh declares it a tyrannical and arbitrary exercise of power, when capital without the State is ready for the construction of railroads, to refuse to grant the liberty of expenditure. The eighth recommends the calling of an extra session of the Legislature and the increase of the capital of the Port Huron and Lake Michigan Railroad to $8,000,000. The ninth declares that the interests of Detroit require an extra session and instant legislation on railroad matters. The tenth earnestly recommends, in view of the above, the issuing of a proclamation by the Governor for a special session at the earliest period possible.

NIAGARA FALLS HYDRAULIC COMPANY.—We are indebted to Walter Bryent, Esq., agent of the above-named company, for a pamphlet containing a statement of its operations, with the charter and by-laws of the corporation. It is a prospectus well worth reading, for it is the plan which has been entered upon for the extensive project of making a great manufacturing village at Niagara Falls, and by means of a canal from above the Falls take water from the rapid and inexhaustible stream of Niagara, a portion of that which now dashes along the Cascades, with a descent of a hundred feet at the Falls, and turn its extraordinary power to the whirling round of water-wheels and to the propelling of machinery which might perform the manufacturing for half the country.

A project to rob Niagara Falls of a portion of its waste flood for the benefit of science, art, and manufactures is both bold and grand; but its boldness and grandeur had no effect upon the originators of the scheme. They expect it to be *profitable.* They have received statements and calculations from eminent and careful engineers which assure them that money is to be made by the investing of capital in this great enterprise, and shrewdness, as well as vastness, is a characteristic of the company.—*Boston Courier.*

DR. NOTT AND UNION COLLEGE.—The munificent endowment of six hundred thousand dollars which Dr. Nott has made to Union College, Schenectady, he is said to have amassed by laborious research and industry. This large private fortune, the Albany Journal says, he has jealously kept sacred, not for himself, but for the cherished object of his life. Grown to almost princely proportions, he uses it now, in accordance with his long entertained purpose, in a series of endowments that will place Union College above every similar institution in the land. The Board of Trustees in accepting the endowment have invited "all the graduates of Union College to meet them at the next annual commencement, and unite in congratulations to Dr. Nott at the then close of fifty years since he entered on his duties as President, and to rejoice with him and with us in the prosperity of this institution, to the advancement of which he has so successfully devoted the energies of a great mind for the thus unexampled period of half a century."

SHEEP AMONG THE CROCKERY.—An amusing incident occurred a few days since in Cincinnati, illustrative of the natural instinct of one sheep to follow another. A small drove was coming up the street, and when they arrived opposite the Gibson House the foremost one made a rush to go into an alley, but a man suddenly coming out somewhat frightened the sheep, and it deviated slightly from the true course, darting into a lamp store, followed by the whole flock. The crowd, anxious to witness the sport, instantly blockaded the door, so that there was no mode of egress for the unceremonious visiters, and as said lamp store was too contracted to suit their peculiar notions, and wishing to regain their liberty as speedily as possible, they saw no other means of escape but through the window. One of them made a break and leaped through the show window upon the pavement, demolishing in its progress glassware, china, &c., with an alacrity truly praiseworthy. The crowd immediately fell back from the door and allowed a free passage, but every sheep jumped through that hole in the window.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Dr. KANE, who sailed from New York on the 29th of May, touched at St. Johns, Newfoundland, for recruits, and left there on the 16th of June. No despatches have since been received from him, but it was ascertained that he was at Uppernavawick, on the east side of Baffin's Bay, on the 11th of July.

Capt. INGLEFIELD, of the propeller Phœnix, who arrived there three days afterwards, states that the *Advance*, of which Dr. Kane is commander, had sailed northward with an open sea, and that he had no doubt that she had gone through Melville's Bay, one of the most dreaded parts of the navigation, without difficulty. Despatches will no doubt therefore be soon received from Dr. Kane by way of Denmark. Upernavawick is in latitude 73, and constitutes the most northerly settlement in Greenland—a part of the Danish dominions.

The expedition had the friendly aid of the King of Denmark, who directed that every possible facility should be extended to it on the part of his subjects. The Advance, instead of coursing along the coast of Greenland and turning thence westward to reach Lancaster Sound, will attempt to make a passage into the Polar seas through Smith's Sound, which was so far explored by Capt. Inglefield last year (he went to latitude 78½) as to satisfy him that a complete opening existed. No navigator had previously preceded as far north in the same direction. Smith's Sound, at the point reached by him, was 36½ miles wide; from which the land bore north northwest on one side and northeast on the other, with a navigable sea. The testimony of many of the Arctic navigators is very conclusive on the point that an open sea exists beyond that latitude. Into this open sea Sir John Franklin unquestionably sailed, and it is probable that his vessels lie imbedded in ice in some of the bays which border upon it. The despatches of Capt. McClure, whose vessel, the Intrepid, had been frozen in for three winters in a bay adjoining this open sea, support this conclusion. They were received in England in September last. His vessel lies in the Bay of Mercy, on the north part of one of the series of islands which are supposed to lie south of this open sea, and northward of the continent of North America and Asia.

The men of Capt. McClure passed on the ice over to Melville's Island, and left at Winter Harbor a note stating where they were. A party of Capt. Kellet's men found it, and they went immediately to Capt. McClure's vessel. Sir John Franklin, had he been in Capt. McClure's position, might have had communication with Winter Harbor, as it is but one hundred and sixty miles distant; but if he were twice the distance off he would be greatly embarrassed in making the journey.

The more recent navigators provide themselves with a description of food, pemmican, which, from its compactness, may be carried at long distances with great ease; and they use a description of boats and sleds altogether superior to those formerly used. Pemmican is made of beef subjected to a drying process, in which seventy-five per cent. of the raw material passes off in evaporation. The boats of Capt. McClure are spoken of as weighing but eighteen pounds.

The Advance is well supplied with food and boats suitable for very long expeditions on land. The evidence presented by Capt. McClure and others as to the quantity of food supplied by those regions is very conclusive to show that an expedition locked up in the ice as his is may subsist for years without difficulty.

Renewed confidence has been imparted to all those who are familiar with Arctic discoveries as to the chance of the safety of Sir John Franklin. The chances of his being discovered are also greatly increased. There are now engaged in this service the Advance, already mentioned, which is probably sailing in the open sea seen by Capt. Inglefield along the edge of its numerous bays.

Sir Edward Belcher, with his ship and propeller, was in Wellington's Inlet on the 26th of July last, on his return to Beechy Island, there to wait further orders from his Government. He will probably receive orders to continue the search. Capt. Kellett, with his ship and propeller, is at Melville's Island. He has sent out several sledge expeditions to the west and north. They are close upon the supposed track of Franklin.

Capt. McClure's ship, imbedded in the ice, may be converted into a storeship to aid future expeditions. The North Star storeship lies at Beechy Island, on the north side of Wellington's Inlet. There is also a storeship at Point Barrow, on the northwest coast of North America. Capt. Collinson, who went up Behring's Straits, and was last heard of in August, 1851, is prosecuting the search.

The propeller Isabel is now at Valparaiso, whence she will proceed next spring through Behring's Straits to explore the coast along the north of Asia, in the hope of getting round the pack ice which has always been found north of Behring's Straits. This expedition was fitted out by the private means of Lady Franklin.

Part of the American exploring expedition, under the command of Commander Ringgold, consisting of five vessels, will undoubtedly aid in this object. This fleet was at the Cape of Good Hope by the last accounts, received in September. Some of the vessels will attempt to pass through Behring's Straits.

The propeller Phœnix, which bore Capt. McClure's despatches to England, has been ordered by the British Government to leave England in the spring, bound for the Arctic regions by a new route, between Spitzbergen and Nova Zembla. The activity thus imparted to this great humane object gives confidence that it will eventuate in success.—*Journal of Commerce.*

NEW ORLEANS HOWARD ASSOCIATION.

We have received, in pamphlet form, a full report of the receipts and disbursements of this truly philanthropic society during the prevalence of the yellow fever at New Orleans. The whole number of cases coming under the care of the association was 11,088. Of these 8,146 were discharged cured, and 3,942 died. 5,263 were males; 5,885 females. The cases over sixteen years of age were more than five to one of those under that age, viz. 9,415 to 1,673. The number of foreign birth was 9,707; of 635 the birth-place was unknown; and only 716 of the 11,088 were ascertained to be natives of the United States.

Of this foreign population 5,845 were Irish, 2,890 were Germans, 436 French, 298 English, 80 Italians, 39 Spanish, 35 Swiss, 28 Swedes; the remainder a few of almost every other nation.

The total receipts into the treasury from the 14th of July were $228,927.56. The sources from which it was derived are stated in detail. The expenditures of all kinds have amounted to $159,190 32. There are estimated to be outstanding claims against the association amounting to about $3,500. Total expenditure $162,690.32, leaving a balance on hand of $66,237.14, of which $36,000 are invested in bond and mortgage at eight per cent., and about $30,000 on a special deposite in bank at four per cent.

The expenditures include all the expenses of meeting these 11,088 cases—nurses, medicines, physicians, care of convalescents, aid in money to destitute convalescents, the cost of physicians, nurses, medicines, and other aid sent to the sick in the interior of the State, to Texas, and to Mobile, and $14,550 divided among orphan and charitable associations.

This item of appropriation is explained by the fact that 241 orphans were left on the hands of the association, and at the close of the epidemic they were transferred to the various asylums and associations, each with an appropriation of one hundred dollars for its benefit.

The whole narrative exhibits in the most pleasing light the liberal sympathy which contributes such large sums of money from all quarters for the relief of suffering strangers, and shows the vast responsibility and labor undertaken by this body of good Samaritans.

THE METROPOLITAN HOTEL.—This magnificent building has been sold by Mr. Van Rensselaer to Mr. Stewart for the sum of $530,000. It has been reported that it is to be altered into a store, to be occupied by A. T. Stewart & Co., the extensive dry goods dealers. This is not true. The Messrs. Leland have a lease of the hotel for ten years from the 1st of May, 1854, at a very low rent, and Mr. Niblo has a lease of the premises he occupies for four years from next May. This will prevent any change being made in any part of the building occupied by the Messrs. Leland for more than ten years. Upon the expiration of Mr. Niblo's lease, that part may be converted into a store for Stewart & Co.'s business, but it would be much better to add it to the hotel and increase the number of rooms. More space for the hotel accommodations is much wanted, the house having been from the day of opening literally crowded with travellers. In consequence of the long leases of the present occupants at a very low rent, the purchase, as an investment, is far from being a productive one. It may not pay as it should until new leases are made. It may be well enough to state here, for the benefit of whom it may concern, that Mr. P. T. Barnum has not, and never had, in any shape or way, the first cent of interest in the Metropolitan Hotel, either through Mr. Van Rensselaer, the Messrs. Lelands, or Mr. Stewart.—*New York paper.*

"NO ONE'S ENEMY BUT HIS OWN."—No one's enemy but his own" happens, generally, to be the enemy of every body with whom he is in relation. "No one's enemy but his own" runs rapidly through his means; calls in a friendly way on his friends for bonds, bail, and securities; involves his nearest kin: leaves his wife a beggar: quarters his orphans upon the public; and, after having enjoyed himself to his last guinea, entails a life of dependance on his progeny, and dies in the odor of that ill-understood reputation of harmless folly which is more injurious to society than some positive crimes.

CLOCK-WORK.

A New Haven correspondent of the Journal of Commerce gives the following interesting notes of the manufacture of clocks in that city:

"New Haven, as a city, has undergone great changes within a few years. Though still retaining her primitive characteristics—her genteel residences and shaded retreats—she has been engrafted with an enormous manufacturing interest, which is closely identified with her prosperity, and yet is of such recent growth that few comprehend its extent and importance. Almost the entire eastern part of the city which, a comparatively short time since, was in "commons," is now thickly studded with the tall chimnies of establishments for the manufacture of 'Yankee-notions' in all their variety, and with the dwellings of the mechanics employed by them. One of the most conspicuous of these is Jerome's immense clock factory, in which upwards of four hundred and fifty persons are employed, and more than six hundred clocks are daily manufactured. Last September the unusually large number of seventeen thousand was turned out.

"These measurers of time, multiplied like the leaves of the forest, regulate the movements of individuals in all parts of the world. A recent traveller encountered them in the mountains of Asia; and but a few days ago a parcel was shipped to 'Jerusalem, via Joppa.' The universal Yankee clock may now be considered the fit representative of the Yankee nation, and an appropriate device for her escutcheon. Mr. Jerome's works consist of twelve buildings, in which all the processes necessary for the commencement and completion of a clock (over two hundred) are carried on; and each one is facilitated by the use of machinery. The advantages thus afforded defy all competition. The old-fashioned Dutch clock has become an obsolete thing, and the Germans have been completely supplanted in the extensive trade in clocks which they transacted with England twelve years ago. Last year Mr. Jerome made not less than one hundred and fifty thousand clocks, and the number manufactured this year is expected to reach two hundred thousand, valued at about five hundred thousand dollars! This is a number greater, probably, than the joint production of all other similar establishments in the United States. And, notwithstanding the enormous supply, during the present year it has been unequal to the demand. This is partly owing to the great change which has lately taken place in the manner of making clocks—the spring having superseded the weights, and a more fanciful style the veneered cases. Dispensing with the weights has particularly affected the foreign demand.

"In order to obtain an adequate idea of the extent of Mr. Jerome's operations, no display of statistics can be a substitute for a personal inspection of the works. Extended lines of men ranged beside work-tables are seen, with whom the several pieces required in the construction of a clock (twelve to twenty) are passing through from a rudimentary to a complete state. At one end of the series may be seen an immense quantity of detached parts; at the other a huge heap of several thousand 'movements' ready for casing, and which might apparently be sold as well by the bushel or half bushel as by any other method. More than twenty-five thousand of various styles are continually in process of construction. In the manufacture of cases the same systematic procedure is observed as is noticed above. The rough lumber, of which over two million five hundred thousand feet are consumed, is speedily cut into the desired lengths, split, beveled, and veneered; or, where cases are japaned or varnished, the several pieces are painted, baked, and decorated with the greatest expedition. In the use of pearl, which is inlaid on some varieties of cases, a great improvement has been proposed. The pearl being a very expensive material, Professor Shepherd has suggested that it may be produced artificially, by a combination of lime and various chemical substances, obviating the necessity of exploring the depths of the ocean in order to procure this article. The experiment will doubtless soon be made.

"Numerous ways have always been devised from time to time by which the actual cost of the clock is reduced. By a newly invented machine a section of a tree may be converted into a continuous veneer, much after the fashion of removing the pairing of an apple; and some of our common scrubby and apparently worthless trees, but passing woods vegetated by an abundance of knots, are found to polish admirably. More than five hundred thousand feet of veneers are used per annum. In cutting the teeth of brass wheels and other parts, a machine acts on a large number of separate pieces simultaneously, and the whole are prepared with the same facility that one could be. As all parts are adjusted with mathematical accuracy, by the unerring action of machinery, it is as easy to make a good clock as a worthless one; and such as are very low-priced, selling for less than one dollar each, are guarantied equal to the more costly variety in bronze, gilt, marble, &c., which sell from five dollars to twelve dollars. As an incentive to aspiring young men, it may be mentioned that Mr. Jerome commenced with a capital of fifty dollars, and was strongly advised by friends not to venture upon so hazardous a business as clock-making, inasmuch as a certain Mr. T—— was already making five hundred a year!"

A LEAF FROM FANNY FERN.

FROM THE NEW YORK MUSICAL WORLD.

Dear me, I must go shopping. Shopping is a nuisance; clerks are impertinent; feminity is victimized. Miserable day, too; mud plastered an inch thick on the side walk. Well, if we drop our skirts, gentlemen cry "Ugh;" if we lift them from the mud they level their eye-glass at our ankles. The true definition of a gentleman (not found in incomplete Webster) is—a biped, who, of a muddy day, is perfectly oblivious of any thing but the shop signs.

Vive la France! Ingenious Parisians, send us over your clever invention—a chain suspended from the girdle, at the end of which is a gold *hand* to clasp up the superfluous length of our promenading robes; thus releasing our human digits and leaving them at liberty to wrestle with rude Boreas for the possession of the detestable little sham bonnets, which the milliners persist in hanging on to the backs of our necks.

Well, here we are at Call & Ketchum's dry-goods store. Now comes the tug of war; let Job's mantle fall on my feminine shoulders.

"Have you *blue* silk?"

Yardstick, entirely ignorant of colors, after fifteen minutes snail-like research, (during which time I stand patiently on one l—imb,) hands me down a silk that is as *green* as himself.

Oh! away with these stupid masculine clerks, and give us *women*, who know by intuition what we want, to the immense saving of our lungs and leather, patience and prunella!

Here's Mr. Timothy Tape's establishment.

"Have you lace collars (in points) Mr. Tape?"

Mr. Tape looks beneficent, and shows me some *rounded* collars. I repeat my request in the most pointed manner for *pointed* collars. Mr. Tape replies, with a patronizing grin—

"Points is going out, Ma'am."

"So am I."

Dear me, how tired my feet are! Nevertheless, I must have some merino. So I opened the door of Mr. Henry Humbug's dry-goods store, which is about half a mile in length, and inquire for the desired article. Young Yardstick directs me to the counter at the *extreme* end of the store. I commence my travels thitherward through a file of gaping clerks, and arrive there just ten minutes before two, by my repeater, when I am told that they "are quite out of merinos—but won't Lyonese cloth do just as well?" pulling down a pile of the same. I rush out in a high state of frenzy, and, taking refuge in the next-door neighbors, inquire for some stockings. Whereupon the clerk inquires (of the wrong customer) "what price I wish to pay?" Of course I am not so verdant as to be caught in that trap, and, teetotally disgusted with the entire institution of shopping, I drag my weary limbs into —— new saloon to rest.

Bless me! what a display of gilding, and girls, and gingerbread! what a heap of mirrors! There's more than one Fanny Fern in the world. I found that out since I came in.

"What will you be pleased to have?" Ju-l-i-u-s C-æ-s-a-r! look at that white-aproned waiter pulling out his snuff-box and taking a pinch of snuff right over that bowl of white sugar that will be handed in five minutes to sweeten my tea! And there's another combing his hair with a pocket comb over that dish of oysters.

"What will I have?" Starve—but I'll have nothing till I can find a cleaner place than this to eat in.

Shade of old Paul Pry Boston! what do I hear! Two—(well, I declare I am not sure whether they are ladies or women.) I don't understand these New York feminities. At any rate, they've got on bonnets, and are telling the waiter to bring them "a bottle of Maraschino de Zara, some sponge cake, and some brandy." See them sip the cordial in their glasses with the gusto of an old toper. See their eyes sparkle and their cheeks flush, and just hear their emancipated little tongues go! Wonder if their husbands know that they—but of course they don't. However, it is six of one and half a dozen of the other. They are probably turning down sherry cobblers and eating oysters at Florence's; and their poor hungry children—while their parents are daintyizing—are coming home hungry from school to eat a fragment of dinner picked up at home by a lazy set of servants.

Heigho! ladies sipping wine in a public saloon! Pilgrim rock! hide yourself under ground! Well, it is very shocking the number of married women who pass their time ruining their health in these saloons, devouring Parisian confectionary and tainting their children's blood with an appetite for strong drink. Oh, what a mockery of a home must their's be! Heaven pity the children reared there, left to the chance training of vicious hirelings!

FANNY FERN.